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**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): JOHN J. GRABOWSFI et al.

Examiner:

Priddy, Michael B.

Appln. No.: 09/939,523

Group Art Unit: 3732

Title:

BONE FIXATION DEVICE

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Docket No.

75028-311766

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 I CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING FACSIMILE transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 872-9306), ON DECEMBER 7, 2004.

## REPLY

This Reply is responsive to the outstanding Office Action mailed July 8, 2004. A petition for a two-month time extens on with appropriate fee is filed herewith. No additional fee is thought to be necessary. However, if any fee is required for entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account 06-0029 and is requested to notify us of the same. This Reply in cludes the following:

- Amendments to the Specification beginning on page 2 of this paper.
- Amendments to the Claims as reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this paper.
- Remarks beginning on page 18 of this paper.